

## Message Text

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ACTION SCS-06

INFO OCT-01 ARA-14 ISO-00 CA-01 SSO-00 HA-05 L-03 H-02  
/032 W

-----098720 131900Z /72

O R 131758Z MAY 78  
FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7979  
FBI WASHDC IMMEDIATE  
INFO AMEMBASSY CARACAS

UNCLAS BOGOTA 4547

EO 11652: NA  
SUBJ: GREGORY WAYNE STRIVER KIDNAPPED U.S. CITIZEN

STRIVER ADVISED LEGAT ON 5/12/78 AS FOLLOWS:

1. HE ARRIVED AT CARTEGENA, COLOMBIA AROUND NOON ON MARCH 3  
AND REGISTERED AT THE CARIBE HOTEL. HE SPENT THE REMAINDER OF  
THE DAY ON THE BEACH.

2. ON MONDAY MARCH 6 HE MET A LATIN FEMALE AT THE HOTEL POOL.  
HE REMEMBERS HER NAME AS MARIA DOLORES BUT DOES NOT RECALL HER LAST  
NAME. BETWEEN MONDAY, MAR. 6 AND MARCH 12, THE TWO DATED ON A  
NUMBER OF OCCASIONS. DURING THAT TIME THEY ALSO WENT DEEP SEA  
FISHING AND HE HAD MOVED TO THE DON BLAS HOTEL.

3. THEY HAD TALKED ABOUT GOING TO SANTA MARTA, AND ON/ABOUT  
MARCH 12, MARIA CAME TO THE DON BLAS, HE CHECKED OUT AND THEY  
WENT TO THE AIRPORT. MARIA PURCHASED TICKETS TO SANTA MARTA. UPON  
ARRIVAL THEY SPENT A FEW HOURS ON THE BEACH NEAR THE AIRPORT AND  
THEN CHECKED INTO THE SIERRA HOTEL LOCATED IN RODADERO, A TOURIST  
CENTER NEAR SANTA MARTA. THEY STAYED AT THE SIERRA HOTEL UNTIL  
THE NIGHT OF THE KIDNAPPING.

4. MARIA CHECKED OUT OF THE HOTEL THE DAY OF THE KIDNAPPING AND  
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PLACED HER PERSONAL ITEMS IN STRIVER'S ROOM. SHE WANTED STRIVER  
TO GO WITH HER TO HOTEL PORTO GALEON AND SHARE A ROOM. STRIVER  
FINALLY AGREED. MARIA THEN FOUND A CAR AND DRIVER WHICH STRIVER  
THOUGHT WAS A CAB. THEY LOADED THE LUGGAGE AND LEFT THE HOTEL  
ABOUT 7:00 P.M. ENROUTE TO PORTO GALEON.

5. ABOUT HALFWAY BETWEEN RODADERO AND THE SANTA MARTA AIRPORT

THE DRIVER TURNED OFF THE IGNITION AND PULLED TO THE SIDE OF THE ROAD. AS THE CAR STOPPED, A HEAVY MAN ENTERED FROM THE RIGHT AND ATTACKED STRIVER, SUBDUING HIM WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF THE DRIVER. STRIVER'S HANDS WERE CHAINED BEHIND HIS BACK. A PILLOWCASE PLACED OVER HIS HEAD AND HE WAS TAKEN TO THE HOUSE IN WHICH HE WAS HELD UNTIL FREED BY COLOMBIAN AUTHORITIES.

6. UPON ARRIVAL AT THE HOUSE HE WAS TAKEN INTO A DARK ROOM AND THE PILLOWCASE REMOVED FROM HIS HEAD. HE TALKED IN SPANISH TO HIS TWO ABDUCTORS WHOM HE COULD NOT SEE WELL DUE TO DARKNESS. AT THAT TIME HE HAD ONE FOOT CHAINED TO A BED, AND MARIA WAS SITTING BESIDE HIM WITH HER HANDS CHAINED IN FRONT OF HER. THEY SAID THEY WANTED TO TALK TO THE GIRL AND LEFT THE ROOM WITH HER. THEY TALKED IN THE NEXT ROOM FOR ABOUT HALF AN HOUR AND RETURNED STATING THEY WANTED MONEY AND THAT WHEN THE MONEY WAS PAID HE WOULD BE RELEASED. HE WAS TOLD THAT IF THE MONEY WAS NOT PAID OR IF HE TRIED TO ESCAPE HE WOULD BE KILLED.

7. EARLY DURING HIS CAPTIVITY STRIVER WROTE SEVERAL LETTERS, POSSIBLY AS MANY AS TWELVE, MOST OF WHICH WERE INCORRECTLY DATED. HE WAS TOLD BY HIS KIDNAPPERS THAT IF HE DID NOT PREPARE THE LETTERS THE MONEY WOULD NOT BE PAID AND IF THEY DID NOT GET THE MONEY HE WOULD BE KILLED. HE WAS VERBALLY INTIMATED INTO PREPARING THE LETTERS. THE NAMES, ADDRESSES AND TELEPHONE NUMBERS UTILIZED BY THE KIDNAPPERS WERE SUPPLIED TO THEM BY STRIVER. STRIVER STATED HE WOULD HAVE TO SEE THE LETTERS IN ORDER TO POSITIVELY IDENTIFY  
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THEM. THE LETTERS WERE WRITTEN WITH A WATERMAN FOUNTAINPEN MADE IN FRANCE.

8. ON MARCH 30, THE KIDNAPPERS TOOK SEVERAL PHOTOGRAPHS OF STRIVER. HE STATED HE RECALLS HE WAS DRESSED IN A CHECKED SHIRT AND GYM TRUNKS AT THE TIME. HE WAS PHOTOGRAPHED SITTING, STANDING, AND CHAINED TO THE BED. AN INSTAMATIC TYPE CAMERA WAS USED AND FLASH BULBS WERE UTILIZED.

9. STRIVER STATES HE HAS IDENTIFIED A PHOTOGRAPH SHOWN BY COLOMBIAN ARMY AUTHORITIES AS POSSIBLY BEING ONE OF HIS CAPTORS. OTHER PHOTOGRAPHS COULD NOT BE IDENTIFIED WITH ANY CERTAINTY AT ALL. HE STATED THAT IF HE COULD SEE AND TALK TO THEM HE COULD PROBABLY IDENTIFY HIS CAPTORS. HE STATED HE HAD NEVER SEEN ANY OF HIS CAPTORS PRIOR TO THE KIDNAPPING.

10. STRIVER STATED HE HAD NO KNOWLEDGE OF WHAT TOOK PLACE IN MEXICO CITY. HE RECALLED THAT ONE OF HIS CAPTORS LEFT FOR MEXICO ON ABOUT MARCH 30 AND RETURNED APRIL 14. THAT MAN WAS HEARD TO STATE "NO LO PUDE HACER" (I COULDN'T DO IT). STRIVER ALSO OVERHEARD ONE OF HIS CAPTORS STATE THAT HE HAD TO CALL SOMEONE WHO WAS HANDLING THE NEGOTIATIONS, AND MENTIONED THERE WAS A

ONE HOUR TIME ZONE DIFFERENCE IN THEIR LOCATIONS.

11. THE FOLLOWING RECOLLECTIONS WERE RELATED BY STRIVER. ON THE FIRST NIGHT IN CAPTIVITY HE WAS ASKED ABOUT HIS FOREIGN LANGUAGE CAPABILITY AND SPECIFICALLY ASKED IF HE COULD SPEAK FRENCH OR ITALIAN.

12. WHILE PREPARING THE PREVIOUSLY MENTIONED LETTERS, HE GLANCED THROUGH THE PAD OF PAPER FURNISHED BY THE KIDNAPPERS, AND CAME ACROSS WHAT APPEARED TO HIM AS A LETTER PREPARED IN FRENCH AND AN ELECTRICAL DIAGRAM LETTERED IN FRENCH.

13. STRIVER STATED HE HAD MADE NUMEROUS TRIPS TO MEXICO INCLUDING CITIES OF ACAPULCO AND TAXCO. HE HAD DISCUSSED A TRIP TO MEXICO  
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THIS YEAR WITH AN UNIDENTIFIED FRIEND, BUT PLANS DID NOT MATERIALIZE.

14. STRIVER RECALLED HE AND MARIA HAD ATTENDED A PARTY IN CARTAGENA DURING WHICH MANY PHOTOGRAPHS WERE TAKEN. PARTY GIVEN AND PHOTOS TAKEN BY GENE AND PAT TRONNIER, BOX 151, PRESCOT, WISCONSIN, 54021, TEL: 262-3214. THEY MAY HAVE PHOTOGRAPHS OF MARIA DOLORES.

15. INFORMATION REGARDING THE LETTER AND ELECTRICAL DIAGRAM WRITTEN IN FRENCH WAS DISCUSSED WITH LT. COLONEL KITCHENS, 5TH BATTALION, COLOMBIAN ARMY, SANTA MARTA. HE STATED HE HAD NO KNOWLEDGE OF THIS BUT WOULD IMMEDIATELY LOOK INTO IT.

16. KITCHENS STATED THAT THE ONLY INDIVIDUALS ARRESTED IN THIS MATTER WERE THE FOUR HE PREVIOUSLY IDENTIFIED TO LEGAT. ASECIO

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## Message Attributes

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**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
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